

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR SEASON 2021

When I agreed to be nominated for the position of President I did so on the condition that others joined the ACCSO bureau and I was not left to do the lions share of the work.

People came forward, were voted in at the 2020 AGM, and for several months all worked well. By the time the 2021 season began, however the Competitions Assistant and Vice President, Development had moved on to other things.

With Covid-19 still prevalent and the government needing to have health measures in place clubs reviewed their position for the coming season. It transpired that only 5 of the ACCSO Member clubs were able to take part. The major effect of this was that travel to and from matches was greatly increased with the associated costs. One positive outcome was that Montpellier Barracudas Baseball Club formed a cricket section and the team joined in the T20 and BF Cup competitions.

As I write, it is not at all clear of the organisation of the MBCC section and the search for a suitable ground will enable them to take part in 2022. NCC have also expressed an interest in rejoining ACCSO with a new ground. The work to achieve this is in hand but incomplete. Bordeaux-Giscours CC, Midi CC and Mansle CC have all confirmed they will not be taking part in competitions in 2022.

Final decisions regarding teams participation and associated Pool Structure will be given at the AGM

1. Demise of the Pool umpires. It had been agreed at the 2020 AGM to have the home team provide one umpire to stand with one Pool umpire for each match. As the Calendar was finalised a number of Pool umpires had health issues which reduced the number in the pool greatly. With the hard work of the Umpiring Manager and goodwill of pool umpires to stand alone, with help at square leg, matches were able to be fulfilled. It was disappointing that there was a distinct lack of diligence by clubs in following the agreement for their home matches. The result has been that a different arrangement needed to be found for 2022 season. A poll of clubs showed the favourite to be that experienced umpires would be found amongst the participation teams, of numbers completed by players at the match. This is a backward step in ACCSO Competitions, the likely result being inexperienced umpires causing issues at matches.

2. ACCSO Regulations. As my involvement with matches grew it became apparent that ACCSO Regulations Document, voted in over a number of years, was often unknown to most team captains. They did not know of its existence, its content or where to find it to be in a position to respect it.

The document no longer being respected brought into question its existence. With inexperienced umpires at many matches for 2022 it would be inappropriate for this to expect those standing as umpires to enforce the regulations. The Committee suggest that the document remains but as match guidelines as opposed to regulations enforced by sanctions.

It is strongly recommended that it would be good if the two match captains discuss in advance the aspects which they feel are important and agree how they will be applied. A good example of this is the start time for the match.

A vote on these two topics will be taken later in proceedings.

ACCSO Committee

President and Secretary are one year into their 2 year tenure.

Having found myself doing even more work than I feared for the 2021 season a replacement for the Competitions Assistant was essential.

David Horlock of Eymet CC has agreed to take on this role and will begin work in earnest once the pool structure can be agreed.

It should be noted by all that I will be standing down at the end of the 2022 season. It is not too early to think about someone for 2023 and 2024.

Required Elections / Changes to Committee

1. **Treasurer**- PB has agreed for his name to be put forward for re-election.
2. **Vice-president**, charged with Development: It has become apparent that most teams in the northern pool have no interest in development at this time. The southern pool through the LOCC have their own scheme. The Committee suggest the post be mothballed for now.
3. **Umpire Manager**, with no pool of umpires this post is no longer required, MG agrees to coordinate any training.